



**Town of North Reading**  
*Massachusetts*

*Parks & Recreation Department*

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2022 MAR -8 AM 8:31

**Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes of  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022,  
Virtual Meeting @ 6:45PM**

**Recreation Chair:** "Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the North Reading Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. A reminder that persons who would like to listen to this meeting while in progress may do so by dialing: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) or linking to: Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84245605052?pwd=MElvMTJJZDNPY0ZBM2ZPSWZrNGFkdz09>

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, the North Reading Parks & Recreation Committee states for the record that this meeting is being recorded by the state and may be recorded by other individuals or media.

**Attendance:**

**Committee Members Present:** Ron Kern, Chair (RK), Sergio Coviello (SC), Rita Mullin (RM), Billie Luker (BL), Mike Fitzpatrick (MF), Pat Filmore (PF)

**Staff present:** Lynne Clemens (LC), Marty Tilton (MT), Maria Brown (MB) Heidi Veader (HV)

**Tardy:**

**Absent:** Sheila Sturdevant (SS)

**Call to order:** 6:47pm; Quorum, called by PF

**Audience of Citizens:** Maureen Stevens FONRPRC

**Departed Early:** Mike Fitzpatrick @ 7:43pm

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

(PF) made a motion to accept Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2022 (SC) Second the Motion

**Approved: 6 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Motion: Passed**

**FONRPRC:** Update: Summer BBQ's- (RM) Proposed to have (4) BBQ's 6/29, 7/13, 7/20 & 7/27 Wednesday's & Thursday will be rain dates if required. RM is looking for kids to help volunteer time to assist with set up of BBQ's she will follow up with an email to the rec committee.

**Operations Director:** Update: (MB) Balance sheet 1/31/22 revenues at 61% and we are 7 months into the fiscal year with 61% of earnings, hoping to meet our budget or go over, our expenses are at 50%, our deficit is \$64K & last year 2021 was \$187K. Retained earnings have not yet been certified they had to reissue to the state, Covid expenses didn't get approved. Purchased orders have been approved by TA (6) of them. MB has budget presentation meeting with MT 2/10/22 @ 1pm with TA Mike Gilleberto & Finance Director Liz Rourke. (RM) asked (MT) to make sure to remind TA about the part-time job position in the future to help MT.

**Recreation Director:** Update: (LC) winter session just started & 95% done with the brochure, our #'s are nice, we still have 2 instructors & will most likely need 1 more just not yet. Working on Spring/Summer brochure, all

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Municipal employees & summer contractors lined up, spring sessions lined up as well with 5-6 programs left to finish up on. Summer staffing not 1 from last year is able to return so we will be doing all new hires, I have sent in a request for approval from TA & have been waiting 2 weeks for his signatures on the 3 year chart that was requested and done last year 2021. I have met with a town resident who plays Pickleball looking for more practice space @ our THG, so will be working with NU to go over a few days/times that we could fit it into our schedule to open it up to the community.

On a side note we have advertised for my position in MMA which stands for Mass Municipal Association and have received about 8-10 applications & all are qualified for the position, I will be meeting with (MB) & (RM) on 2/10/22 Thursday @ 10am to go over the start of interviewing process & feed through the applicants to pick which ones can come in for interviews. (LC) still feels strongly that Nancy Ursino is a strong candidate for the role as she is qualified & has the experience to do so.

**Parks Director/Dept Head:** Update: (MT) Last department head meeting they recommended to keep zoom meetings ongoing, but you can do in person meetings. Started with cleanup, a lot of tree work done, next week tuning up all equipment and purchasing parts that are needed. The last ice storm was tough, very icy on the parking lot at the Rec center. Still asking for Brian's position to be covered. Seasonal crew I have 3 good leads that are qualified for the position. Trying to meet with contractors but due to the snow it has been tough regarding the playground structure, tennis courts, 1 basketball court along with the skate rink to be resurfaced. No new news on the Turf, it will be brought up at the next town meeting in June, (MT) feels as if the community will support the need for a new turf to be done at the NRHS field, there needs to be a G-max test done and it can't be done until the Spring. (MF) brought up that the Track coaches at NRHS have been asking for power at the field, (MT) said he will bring it up at the Athletic subcommittee meeting next week 2/16/22 with Mike Connelly & Dave Johnson, also Mike C was asking if they can use the turf for Lacrosse & Soccer games, (MT) said they would have to do the maintenance on it as it is not the Parks responsibility. (LC) talked about Tennis USTA @ IRP that the Sp/Sum/Fall programs at this time they cannot use the courts as they stated they aren't useable so they will utilize the NRHS courts on Sundays. (MF) talked about dog park/pickleball park @ Park St property, he has a friend Mike Oneil who would look at the area to see what exactly needed to be done to clean it up, what is the next step to get things moving. (RM) said we could see about getting grants & set up a group to help raise money for either or. (MT) stated it's just not on the top of the priority list at this time as it really needs to be cleaned up with all the over grown brush, needs fencing, needs hardtop, parking.

Phase 1: awaiting on quotes on repaving 1 basketball court, resurface the skate rink, playground structure, tennis courts & add lines for pickle ball.

**LUC- Garden Update:** There is a meeting 2/22/22 @ 7pm via zoom (RM) asked that (MT) attend as Kate Araniz will have further questions regarding funds & how much it will cost for the water etc. Rec committee that will join are as follows; (MT), (PF), (RK), (SC), (BL)

**New business:** (RK) stated that there is a zoom meeting 2/16/22 with Ken Tarr & Hillview to all be on the same page regarding a small discussion on the intergenerational center, LUC/Rec recommended if they were on the property at IRP that there is a 3 month waiting period on approval from the town council opinion, question of the state getting grants down the road.

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**Next Recreation Committee Meeting Date March 7, 2022**

**Adjournment @ 7:58 PM**

**(PF) Made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:58 PM**

**(RM) Seconds the motion.**

**Approved: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Motion: PASSED**